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AF/2800

Applicants

LUKAS HOWALD ET AL.

Confirmation No.: 4255

Serial No.

09/873,664 June 4, 2001

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: B. Mouttet

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated August 26, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire November 26, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which beings on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.